

Hungry Horse News
November 14, 1969

Fluoride Harming Falls Vegetation

An additional report has been received by Flathead National Forest regarding fluorides in and near Columbia Falls.

Clinton Carlson, Missoula, regional plant pathologist, wrote that he had taken seven differ-

ent samples in various parts of the community June 10.

Results of testing these samples is that the fluoride content is of sufficient quantity to cause vegetation death, and considerably more than plant tolerances.

Carlson is heading a new, more detailed study of fluoride effects as a result of the Anaconda Aluminum Co. plant. Test plots are being established.

Paul Decelle, Flathead National Forest silviculturist, in aerial observation northeast of Columbia Falls found 1,100 acres of heavily damaged trees from fluorides on the west side of Teakettle Mountain. On the east side there were 1,900 acres of less afflicted trees.

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